

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding final Office Action mailed April 11, 2007. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and pending claims are respectfully requested.

I. Attorney Docket Number

Applicant notes as an initial matter that the Office Action incorrectly identifies the attorney docket number for the present application. The correct docket number is 10960936-1. Applicant respectfully requests that the correct docket number be acknowledged and used for the remainder of prosecution of the present application.

II. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and § 103(a)

Claims 10, 11, and 14-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Sato* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,594,480) and claims 12 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sato* in view of *Saito* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,068,363).

As noted above, each of Applicant's claims has been canceled through this Response. In view of those cancellations, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections are moot. Applicant reserves the right to present the canceled claims, or variants thereof, in continuing applications to be filed subsequently.

III. New Claims

Claims 26-41 have been added into the application through this Response. Applicant respectfully submits that these new claims describe an invention novel and unobvious in view of the prior art of record and, therefore, respectfully requests that these claims be held to be allowable.

With particular regard to independent claim 26, none of the cited prior art references teach or suggest a printhead assembly that comprises a nozzle system including an ink chamber “configured to receive liquid ink at ambient temperature, the ink being in a liquid state at the ambient temperature such that the ink need not be heated to enter the liquid state”. For example, Sato teaches melting powdered dye at an elevated temperature to obtain liquefied dye. In addition, none of the cited prior art references teach or suggest a heating layer comprising an electronic heating element configured to “heat the liquid ink in the ink chamber from the ambient temperature to a first threshold temperature that is higher than the ambient temperature”. For example, Sato teaches heating powdered dye to a temperature at which is liquefies and then “maintaining” its temperature. *Sato*, column 7, line 66 to column 8, line 4; column 9, lines 6-8.

Regarding independent claim 34, Applicant refers to the discussion of claim 26 above. Applicant further notes in regard to claim 34 that none of the references teach or suggest a print control system configured to “sequentially activate the electronic heating elements of the nozzle systems across the length of the printhead assembly and to separately scan the laser system across the printhead assembly in synchrony with the

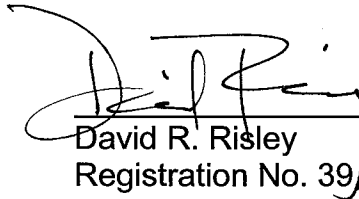
sequential activation of the electronic heating elements so as to generate a continuous thermal wave that traverses the length of the printhead assembly.”

The claims that depend from independent claims 26 and 35 are allowable at least for the same reasons that claims 26 and 35 are respectively allowable.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



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